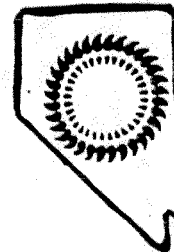


NEVADA CLIMATE SUMMARY



Office of the
State Climatologist

Offices: 226 and 322
Mackay Science
702) 784-1723

John W. James
State Climatologist
Mackay Science Hall
University of Nevada-Reno
Reno, Nevada 89557

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SYNOPSIS

October was yet another in a string of very dry months for most of Nevada. In fact, the West has been particularly dry, with Reno having had no rain, not even a trace, during September and October, for a new record for dryness for those months combined. Reliable records began in 1888. September and October 1917 and 1954 had at least a trace. In addition, there have only been three completely dry Octobers during the 107 years of observation -- 1954, 1966, and now 1995. As this is being written (November 13) Reno has also established a record for the number of consecutive days without measurable precipitation--118 days!! That broke the old record of 111 days set in 1954.

TEMPERATURE

Temperatures averaged near normal at most locations, except 3 - 4 degrees warmer than usual in portions of the West and 3 - 4 degrees cooler in some areas of the Northeast. Extremes were near the century mark along the Colorado River. The State record high for October is 109° set at Cottonwood Cove in 1980.

On the low side of the thermometer the mercury fell to -2° on the 31st at Frank Prunty's Charleston ranch (it was also an even zero on the 18th), +2° at the IL Ranch, as recorded by Shawn Wilde, and +4° on Dave Secrist's thermometer at San Jacinto. In addition, the temperature was 6° at Wildhorse Reservoir and Ruth, and 8° at "downtown" Jarbidge at Rey Nystrom's, the Lister Ranch near Pioche, and at Elko National Weather Service. The State record low is -10° set at Mountain City in 1970.

PRECIPITATION

Most locations reported no rain/snow this month. The season's first very light snow did fall in the extreme northeast the second week of the month, with the Diamond A Ranch near Jarbidge (Nancy Chapin-observer) having .53" of precipitation, while a few miles to the south "downtown" Jarbidge had .94". Other than that, with few exceptions, no more than .25" fell anywhere in Nevada during October.

After the very wet 1994-95 Water Year, 1995-96 is getting off to a very poor start.

SUNSHINE, WIND & EVAPORATION

Although long-time records have not been kept, most of Nevada had near record amounts of sunshine during October, with the September-October combination of sun probably new records at many locations. During this clear dry weather, high wind speeds are not to be found either, with average speeds well below normal.

Evaporation amounts were also above normal, for example, 5.00" at Fallon, 4.51" at Ruby Lake, 4.50" at Shoshone, 4.27" at Honey Lake Fleming, 4.00" at U.N.R., and 2.50" at Minden.

NOTE: Extreme temperatures for November and December--

November 98° at Mesquite 1944.
-33° at Charleston 1993.

December 91° at Las Vegas 1910.
-46° at Mountain City 1990.

John W. James
State Climatologist